

Late Antique Rural Complex by the Church of St. Chrysogonus in Glavotok (Island of Krk)

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ABSTRACT: In September of 2012 the Division for Archaeological Heritage, Croatian Conservation Institute, conducted a trial archaeological excavation at the church of St. Chrysogonus in Glavotok, on the island of Krk. Stylistically, the church is an early Romanesque building, whose construction was connected to the transition of the Diocese of Krk under the patronage of the Archdiocese of Zadar in the mid-12th century. During the trial archaeological excavation, an area 111 m² in size has been explored. Architectural remains of a complex that could be presumed in the church vicinity were found, while stratigraphic analysis of the architecture, movable finds, and charcoal samples suggest three periods of the site. First period, Late Antiquity, includes a rural complex south and southeast of the church. Second period, Early Medieval, consists of architectural remains on the plateau east of the church, while the third, Medieval, stage includes the church with the accompanying architecture.

KEYWORDS: *Krk, St. Chrysogonus, Late Antiquity, rural architecture, Early Medieval period, High Medieval period*

Island of Krk in Antiquity – overview

Due to its proximity to the mainland, the island of Krk was always a desirable location for settlement and was closely connected to historical changes on the coast. Starting in prehistory, bearers of cultures that developed on the mainland migrated to this large island, rich in natural resources.

Names of the islands in Kvarner region are, in their earliest form, preserved in the works of Hellenistic and Latin writers, mostly geographers, lexicographers and mythographers. Pseudo-Skylax mentions the Electrydes that are identified as Krk Island¹. At the time of the Greek authors, the island was inhabited by Liburnians. They established settlements in strategic positions, on hills that enabled control of surrounding areas. Roman influence on the Li-

burnian domain begins with the foundation of the colony in Aquileia in 181 BC. During the 2nd and 1st century BC, territory of Liburnia became more and more dependent on the mighty Roman Republic. After 9 BC, Liburnia and its islands become part of a newly established province of Dalmatia, and they lived peacefully in cooperation with Roman authorities, which is visible from the relatively early and developed municipalisation of settlements. As part of the province of Dalmatia, Liburnians had a status of a special community, with its own customs and cults, though they mostly lived in urbanized local centres with italic civil law. The main centre of the community (*Conventus Scardonitanus*) was in *Scardona*, only to be transferred to *Iader* in the 3rd century. During the Roman rule over the island, urban settlements were established in the location, or close to the location, of former Liburnian *oppida*.



1. Position of the site (source Google Earth, edited by A. Janeš, Lj. Gamulin)
 Položaj nalazišta (izvor Google Earth, uredio A. Janeš, Lj. Gamulin)

In the western part of the island, settlement of *Curicum* was established. It gained status of a municipium during the reign of Tiberius, or at the latest during the reign of Claudius. A second settlement, *Fulfinum*, was founded near the *oppidum* of the *Fertinates*, in the north part of the island, and it gained municipal status in mid-1st century, during the reign of Emperor Vespasian. Krk remained a part of the province of Dalmatia, but at the end of the 2nd century the area of *conventus Scardoniae* was renamed to Liburnia. As a result of Diocletian's reforms, Dalmatia and Liburnia became parts of the diocese of Pannonia, only to become a part of the diocese of Illyricum at the end of the 4th century, during Theodosius' reign².

In the following centuries, there is a sudden influx of Christian religious idea from the East Roman provinces, whose religious-ethical doctrines were spread particularly amongst pauper population in the Empire. In tur-

bulent times of 4th and 5th centuries, during incursion of the Visigoths and Huns in Italy, Kvarner islands were spared thanks to the geographical isolation. According to the writings of the Anonimus from Ravenna, the area that includes the island of Krk became a part of *Liburniae Tarsaticensis*, and it can be assumed that the administration was moved to *Tarsatica*³.

After the fall of the Empire in 476, the area of Liburnia, and Krk, was under Odoacer's rule, who was in power till 489 when the Ostrogoths conquered northern Italy and established their kingdom with Ravenna as centre. Civil rule was held by a local *comes*. After the death of the Ostrogoth king Theodoric, a Byzantine offensive has started. In 535, the Byzantine army occupied Dalmatia and Liburnia, and in 539 they invaded Northern Italy. The administration was nominally given to a byzantine proconsul, although the Ostrogoths were *de facto* in power until their final



2. Church of St. Chrysogonus site: researched area (Croatian Conservation Institute documentation, drawing by L. Čataj)
Nalazište crkve sv. Krševana: istraženo područje (dokumentacija HRZ-a, plan izradila L. Čataj)

defeat in 555. The Kvarner islands have accepted the rule of the *basileus* after the decisive Byzantine victory in the Gothic war in 555. Krk became part of the Exarchate of Ravenna, as part of the theme Dalmatia⁴. In that period the Diocese of *Curicum* was founded. Since 751 it is still part of the theme Dalmatia, but it is under the governance of an imperial governor in Zadar. At the end of the 8th century, Byzantium lost its dominion in Istria, Liburnia and Dalmatia due to a large offensive by the Franks. After the treaty of Aachen in 803, confirmed in 812, Byzantium remained in control of the Dalmatian coastal towns and islands, Krk included⁵.

Location and position of the site

The site by the church of St. Chrysogonus is located in the western part of Krk Island, known as Šotovento⁶. The church is built over Čavlena bay, on cape Glavotok, on the northwestern edge of Šotovento, 2 km from Milohnići village. It is located in an area that, from south to north, descends towards the sea in a series of terraces. Šotovento is an area that has such limestone plateaus/terraces⁷ that consist of karst with patches of terra rossa and crushed dolomite⁸, covered mostly in submediterranean vegetation composed of pubescent oak and hornbeam⁹. The site is

positioned between two smaller bays, Bujina and Mršičeva, approximately the same distance from both (240–260 m), in an area that locals call Mamuci or Žigulje¹⁰ (fig. 1).

Archaeological excavation in 2012

Trial archaeological excavations¹¹ encompassed the areas south, southeast and west of the church of St. Chrysogonus (fig. 2, 4). West of the church, two trenches have been excavated, measuring 10.5 m² in total. Parts of the architecture were found, a wall that is perpendicular to the entrance part of the church (SU 041), in SW–NE direction, built of irregularly shaped stone with lime mortar binding. In the western part of the wall, mortar is mostly missing, and it gives an impression of a dry stone wall construction (SU 009) (fig. 3). The explored length of the wall is 4.55 m. Remains of a wall that is perpendicular to the before mentioned wall have been also found (SU 042). Next to the entrance to the church, a wall (SU 049) was partially explored, constructed in the same technique, preserved in height of 1–2 rows of stone, in NW–SE direction, mostly destroyed when the church was built.

In the area south and southeast of the church 6 trenches have been excavated, 100 m² in total. In the largest trench (trench 3) a square room was found, with dimensions 3,5



3. View of the site from south during excavation (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by M. Zaccaria, 2012)
Pogled na nalazište s juga tijekom istraživanja (fototeka HRZ-a, snimio M. Zaccaria, 2012.)



4. View on the remains of the wall SU 009 in trench 1 (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by S. Boschert, 2012)
Pogled na ostatke zida SJ 009 u sondi 1 (fototeka HRZ-a, snimila S. Boschert, 2012.)



5. Room 1 of the Late Antique complex (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by D. Kirschenheuter, 2012, edited by A. Janeš)
Prostorija 1 kasnoantičkog kompleksa (fototeka HRZ-a, snimio D. Kirschenheuter, 2012., uredio A. Janeš)

x 3.6 m (room 1), oriented NW–SE. It's walls are preserved in height of one row of stones, built using *opus incertum* technique that can be noticed only in the east part of the north wall (SU 018). Width of the walls varies between 0.39 and 0.48 m. There were two openings in the southern and eastern part that enabled communication with adjacent rooms. Both openings are eccentric, positioned closer to the southeast corner of room 1. Due to such communication, the southeast corner of the room had to be executed as a column or a semi column. The room had a plastered floor. A layer of plaster (SU 051) is on top of a foundation made of medium-sized rocks (SU 052). We also noticed the repairs on the floor presented as plaster mixed with smaller pebbles (SU 026) (fig. 5). To the east and the south of room 1 traces of plastered floors belonging to rooms 2 and 3 (east – room 2; south – room 3) have been discovered. A layer of grey soil was excavated on the western edge of room 2 that contained a large quantity of *tegulae* and iron nails that indicate a collapsed roof construction.

Remains of walls were noticed north of the above mentioned room, in a pile of rocks that make the western edge of an elongated dry stone wall located between two terraces. During the removal of this stone pile (SU 006) an irregular rectangular structure (building A) was unearthed¹². Walls of the object were constructed out of irregular stone with mealy lime mortar binding. The object measured 4.8 x 3.4 m in size. In the south edge of the trench it was established that the south wall of the structure (SU 013) leans against an older wall (SU 018) that continues towards east. It was noticed that the wall SU 013 isn't completely parallel to the older wall SU 018. Western wall of the structure (SU 011) begins in the thinnest part of the wall SU 013, and is also built on the wall SU 018.

Furthermore, in the northern extension of the trench it has been confirmed that the foundation footing of the western wall of building A continues towards north and was mostly destroyed when the east conch of the church was built¹³.

To the west of room 1, in trench 2, layers that were foundations for floors, i.e. floors were explored. Remains of plastered floors were not found in this area, since the parcel in question was used as arable land during the 20th century.

East of trench 3, remains of similar layers were identified, as well as the continuation of the north wall of room 1 (SU 018). On the eastern edge of the parcel, inside of the dry stone wall, after removing the stones, a wall has been discovered, i.e. partial remains of western face of the wall, of NW–SE direction (SU 059) (fig. 6). In the north part of the trench only mortar has been found, all that has remained of the foundation. Western face of the wall was found in the southern part of the trench, it was composed of quarry stones arranged in rows.



6. Remains of the eastern wall of the Late Antique complex (SU 059) (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by A. Janeš, 2012)
Ostaci istočnog zida kasnoantičkog kompleksa (SJ 059) (fototeka HRZ-a, snimio A. Janeš, 2012.)



7. Presumed development phases of the site (made by A. Janeš)
Pretpostavljene razvojne faze nalazišta (izradio A. Janeš)

Northeast from the mentioned wall, between terraces, remains of two walls constructed out of rough cut stone arranged in irregular rows (SU 060 and SU 065) were documented. The wall SU 060 follows the layout of the terraces, and extends in SW–NE direction, while the wall SU 065, direction NW–SE, is perpendicular to it, on the border of the parcels.

By analysing stratigraphic relationship of architectural remains, results of radiocarbon analysis, and the review of movable finds after the trial excavations, we can conclude that the position around the church of St. Chrysogonus in Glavotok was occupied in, at least, three periods (fig. 7).

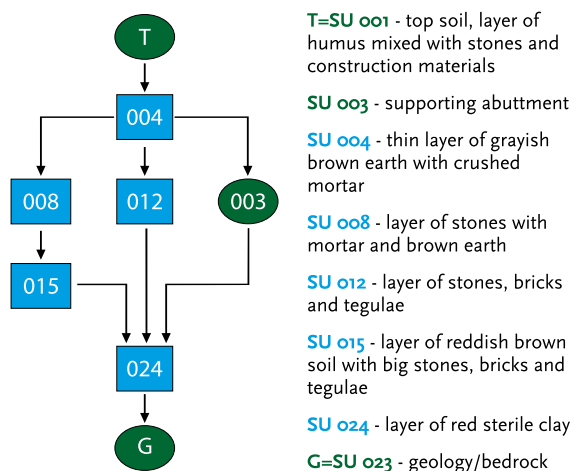
PERIOD I – LATE ANTIQUITY

The oldest horizon on the site belongs to Late Antiquity, when the area south and southeast of the medieval church

was used. Remains of a building excavated in the south part of trench 3¹⁴ belong to this period, including the rooms 1, 2, and 3. Excavations in trench 6 showed that the wall SU 018 (north wall of room 1) extends towards east which shows that the object from trench 3 extends to that side. Architectural finds in the east part of the parcel (trench 5) are placed parallel to the east (SU 022) and west (SU 033) walls of room 1, i.e. perpendicular to the north (SU 018) and south wall (SU 037) of the same room. Wall SU 059 is a part of the same building as room 1. Having in mind the terrain slope from the wall towards east, the wall was probably the eastern edge of the Late Antique complex. West of rooms 1 and 3, floor foundations have been confirmed which indicate that the complex extended in that direction also. Three meters to the southwest, no structures have been confirmed. Therefore we can pla-



8a. Western section of trench 2 (photo by S. Boschert, edited by A. Janeš)
Zapadni profil sonde 2 (snimila S. Boschert, uredio A. Janeš)



8b. Harris matrix of the western section of trench 2 (made by A. Janeš)
Harrisova matrica zapadnog profila sonde 2 (izradio A. Janeš)



9. Building A seen from west (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by A. Janeš, 2012)
Object A sa zapada (fototeka HRZ-a, snimio A. Janeš, 2012.)

ce the western edge of the complex between excavated trenches 2 and 4. Remains of floor foundations have also been found in trench 6, south of the wall SU 018, which indicates that south of the wall there were rooms with a roof. The southern border of this building complex has not been found, but we can assume that it is located in the south border of the parcel, where the terrain rises to the next terrace.

During the excavations, two samples of charcoal¹⁵ were collected and sent to analysis. The first sample¹⁶ was collected in trench 2, from a layer of red earth with arranged large stones mixed with brick fragments (SU 015) that represents rough floor foundation (*statumen*)¹⁷ (fig. 8a, 8b). The analysis has shown that the construction of the floors can be dated to the second half of 6th century¹⁸. The second sample¹⁹ was extracted from a layer of random building materials (SU 039) (trench 3B) in the excavated part of room 3. Analysis of this sample confirmed that the layer had to be created in the time period from mid-3rd century to the beginning of the 5th century²⁰. Since the layer hasn't been fully excavated, it can only be assumed that it was a floor foundation.

Movable finds that belong to this phase of the site are of particular interest. Dominant amongst them are fragments of technical pottery, i.e. building materials, such as flat roof tiles (*tegulae*) and, in somewhat smaller number, imbrices (*imbrices*). Most tegulae are red in colour which indicates they were from production centres in the Po valley²¹. We have also found a small number of yellow to pale-yellow roof tile fragments. They can be attributed to workshops from Aquileia region²². Often, tegulae of that colour could be attributed to the workshop of Quintus Clodius Ambrosius²³. Unfortunately no fragments with stamps were found so the dating of these finds is unreliable as their origin. Often building materials from earlier period (1st-3rd century) were reused in Late Antiquity.

Other finds include many pottery fragments used in everyday life²⁴: amphorae, coarse ware pots, plates, fragments of fine ware pottery, lamps etc. A small number of glass fragments, metal objects (dominated by iron nails), and animal bones has also been found.

Several fragments of imported pottery have to be mentioned, mostly originating from North African workshops. Amphorae finds include types Keay LX (T.1:1, 2) and Afri-



10. Church of St. Chrysogonus (Croatian Conservation Institute Photo Archive, photo by L. Čataj, 2010)
Crkva sv. Krševana (fototeka HRZ-a, snimila L. Čataj, 2010.)

cana Ia (T.1:3), which were in use from the end of the 2nd to the beginning of the 4th century²⁵ (this fragment can also be attributed to the Africana IIC type²⁶), maybe Africana IIIa (T.1:4), which were produced since the end of the 3rd century, but were used till the 5th century²⁷, and Byzantine amphora (T.1:5) from the 6th century that are known from other littoral sites²⁸. Rim fragment (T.1:5) can be, with caution, ascribed to the Late Roman 3A2 type which were imported to the western part of the Empire (Gaul) till the end of the 6th century²⁹. Fragments of ribbed pottery walls can be attributed to amphorae of Eastern Mediterranean origin, and are characteristic of Byzantine production³⁰. That way of decorating is usually attributed to spherical amphorae classified as Late Roman 2, and can be dated from the 4th to the 7th century³¹. Tableware is represented with only a few fragments of bowls/plates with red glaze, wall thickness 4 mm, that can be carefully ascribed to type Hayes 50B (T.1:6, 7), dated from the mid-4th century³². Fragment of plate bottom with a seal comprising of a concentric circle and palm leaf pattern (T.1:9) can be dated in period from the end of the 4th century to the end of the 5th century³³.

Lamp fragment decorated in a combination of concentric circles and rhombi is attributed to Hayes IIa type (T.1:10), dated between AD 420 and AD 500³⁴, while two fragments are attributed to the *Firmalampe/Factory lamp* (T.1:11), and based on coarse ware can be ascribed to ceramic products from the 3rd and the 4th century³⁵. Large quantity of so called coarse ware was also found. It is of local production, made on pottery wheel, mixed with gra-

vel, mica, flint and lime, coarse sand and ground pottery. Most common form in this group are pots (T.1:12–21), which were used as kitchen pottery, mostly used for cooking and storing food, while some forms, like bowls (T.1:23) were used for serving food³⁶. Comparison to other sites in this region dates this group of finds from the 4th to the beginning of the 7th century³⁷.

Other finds include several glass fragments from Late Antiquity, bronze needle, oval iron buckle and a handheld mortar. A very similar belt buckle to the one found (T.1:27) was found at Tonovcov grad near Kobarid in the second late antique faze, dated from the end of the 5th till the beginning of the 7th century.³⁸ The bronze needle (T.1:28) lacks the head so it is almost impossible to define the type. Only from the Late Antique period needles were used for binding hear and clothes.³⁹

PERIOD II – EARLY MIDDLE AGES (?)

Building A (fig. 9) is constructed on the north side of the Late Antique complex. Its south wall leans on the north wall of the complex in misalignment, which can be seen in its width that gets smaller from east to west. It was built outside of the axis of the Late Antique complex. Stratigraphy of that wall indicates that building A was constructed in a period when the north wall of the complex was still visible. If not in full height, it was high enough to lean the south wall of building A on it. Building A was a part of a larger complex, indicated by the remains of the foundation in the north extension of the trench that were destroyed while constructing the east conch of the church. For that reason, we can date the construction of building A to a period between the abandonment (or partial abandonment) of the Late Antique complex, and before the building of the church in the middle of the 12th century. The wall (SU 049) found north of the church, just west from the entrance, can be attributed to this complex, as well as documented remains of walls in the north-eastern corner of the parcel (SU 060 and SU 065). Current hypothesis is that the settlement expanded or was relocated to a plateau east of the church, i.e. north of the Late Antique complex.

PERIOD III – HIGH MIDDLE AGES

Third, medieval phase of the site consists of the church of St. Chrysogonus (fig. 10) and architectural remains found in trench 1 and control trench 2. Exact function of the wall SU 041, which is organically connected to the church building, remains unknown. On the western edge of control trench 2 we have noticed a different building method, weak binding, that matches the wall SU 009 in trench 1. Remains of wall SU 042, that continued further to the north, perpendicular to the wall SU 041, indicate an object whose shape and function can't be determined due to current state of research (fig. 11). As far as it can



11. Walls unearthed in control trench 2 (photo by D. Kirschenheuter, edited by A. Janeš)
Zidovi otkriveni u kontrolnoj sondi 2 (snimio D. Kirschenheuter, uredio A. Janeš)

be concluded, the church was built in the mid-12th century, and the excavated remains can be dated in that period. Several authors wrote about dating of the church, and in last few years theses on its construction in the mid-12th century, connected to the transfer of the Diocese of Krk under patronage of the Archdiocese of Zadar, are reinforced⁴⁰. Similar examples of polyconchal churches next to a countryside villa can be found in Pridraga and Kašić near Zadar⁴¹. It is interesting that, during excavation, we haven't found any objects that could be attributed to the Middle Ages. Location of a medieval cemetery is still unknown, but one should probably search for it in close vicinity to the church⁴².

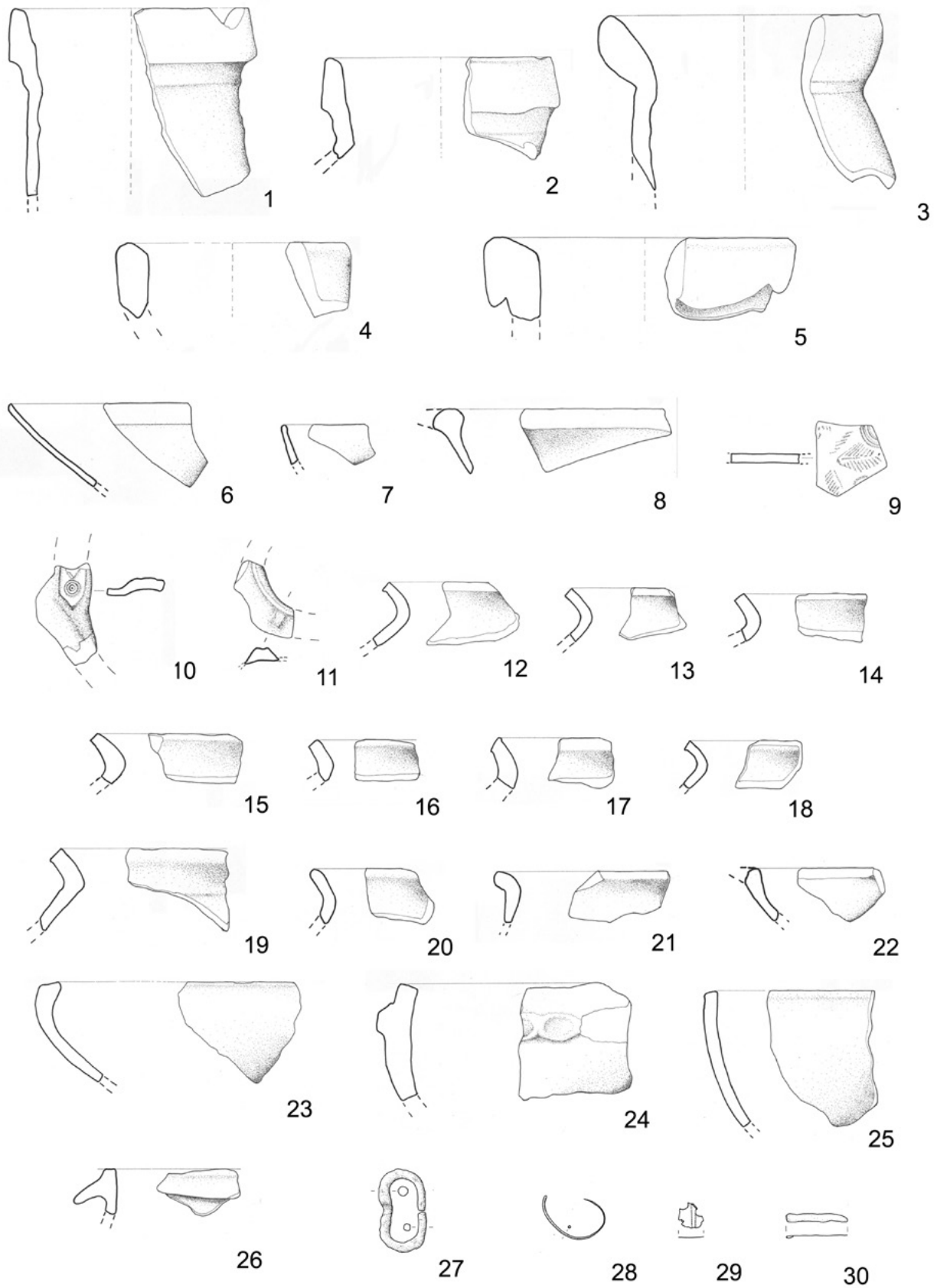
Conclusion

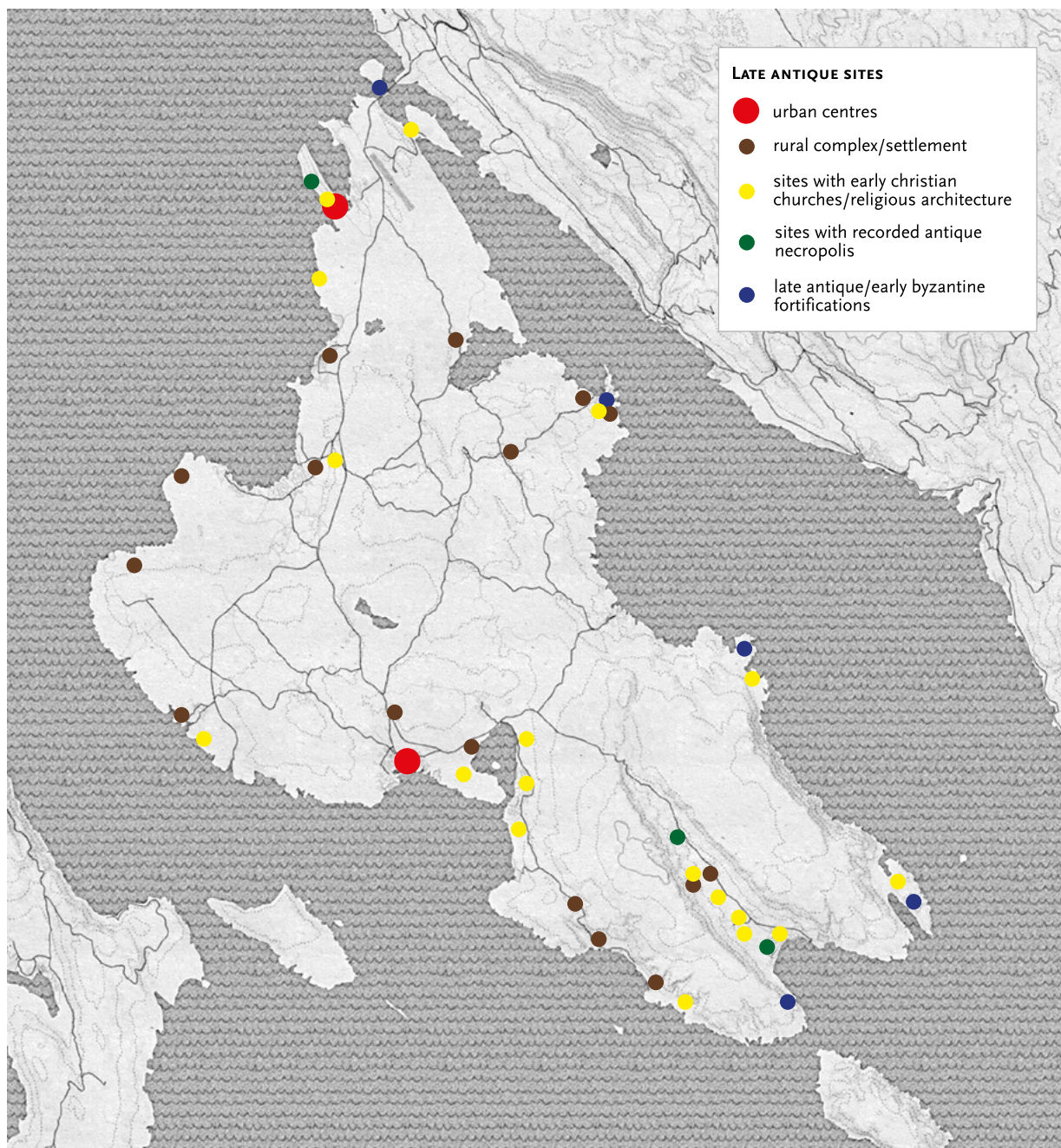
After the trial archaeological excavations modest conclusions can be made. The earliest phase, for now, is represented by a building complex that spreads south and southeast from the church of St. Chrysogonus. Although only a small part of the site has been excavated, it can be assumed that the complex in question is a *villa rustica* or some other form of a rural agricultural estate built during the 3rd century. Having in mind the architectural remains excavated in trenches 3, 3A and 3B, and trenches 5 and 6, it can be assumed that the building complex had a square or rectangular⁴³ layout, with assumed dimensi-

ons 20 x 25 m. Although it is presumed that most villas in this area were built soon after the establishment of Roman rule, since the mid-1st century, i.e. time of Augustus⁴⁴, research along the Adriatic coast have confirmed new construction of country villas and agricultural estates in Late Antiquity, as well as increased habitation of those buildings⁴⁵. Villas on islands gained on importance in turbulent times of military anarchy in the Roman Empire, due to increased safety of those locations. This villa was built according to the needs of the time. Since the coast is well-indented, but also poorly accessible, containing only a few small bays, the villa wasn't built on the coast, rather, it was built on the slopes of Šotovento that descend to the northwest in terraces. It is because of that fact, i.e. large amount of sunlight, that this part of the island was suitable for development of agriculture. Constructing villas on gentle slopes descending to the sea, or on terraces, was known since Early Antiquity⁴⁶. In Istria, but also on the island of Brač, there is a large concentration of rural villas in a zone 2–3 km along the coast⁴⁷. Same can be assumed on the island of Krk, where only partially researched rural complexes at locations Njivice – Poje⁴⁸ and Blatna bay – Mohorov⁴⁹ are known. In Late Antiquity there is an increase in population fleeing from provinces Pannonia and Noricum, which resulted in increased construction of residential, but also of sacral and military architecture⁵⁰. In that context we need to consider the remains of rural architecture found south of the church of St. Chrysogonus. All moveable finds, pottery (amphorae, plates, bowls, coarse ware pots, and lamps), glass, and metal finds indicate the intensity of life from the mid-3rd to the 6th century. Fragments of tegulae are the only finds that could be, with a high degree of uncertainty, ascribed to an earlier date. But with no stamp finds or geochemical analysis of the finds this is a mere guess. We are aware that building material from earlier periods was used in later times, such as the basilica from 5th and 6th century in Klobuk (Bosnia and Herzegovina) where tegulae with the seal from 1st century Pansiana workshop⁵¹ were used, these finds don't have any importance for dating. Similarity in layout and dimensions to the complex next to the church of St. Chrysogonus can be seen in the antique complex next to the church of St. Damian in Punta Križa on Cres⁵².

Although a large quantity of Late Antique material was found, traces of a possible Early Christian sacral architecture were not found. It was common in the period from the 3rd to the 6th century to build early sacral buildings (oratoriums and churches) in rural complexes like this one. Many examples from Istria (villa in Verige bay on Brijuni), Dalmatia (villa in Bijaći, Lovrečina bay on Brač, Povelja–Lokve on Brač, Ivinj–St. Martin), and Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mogorjelo near Čapljina) as well as examples from Italy⁵³ and Spain⁵⁴ indicate that kind

Table 1. Selected examples of imported, coarse pottery and metal finds (drawing by V. Gligora, M. Krmpotić)
 Odabrani primjerci uvozne, grube keramike i metalnih nalaza (crtež V. Gligora, M. Krmpotić)





12. Distribution of (Late) Antique sites on the island of Krk (made by A. Janeš, Lj. Gamulin)
Rasprostiranje (kasno)antičkih nalazišta na otoku Krku (izradio A. Janeš, Lj. Gamulin)

of development of rural communities. Although traces of an Early Christian sacral building haven't been found, the idea that it was built in the vicinity of the villa doesn't have to be excluded. Similar examples can be found in Barbariga in Istria⁵⁵, Muline on Ugljan⁵⁶, and St. Martin in Pridraga⁵⁷. Distance from residential–agricultural objects can be explained by the fact that churches were used for funerary purposes, i.e. inhumation of local population. Also, archaeological evidence from Italy suggests that the majority of rural 5th century churches were located on main roads, in villages and probably in some *castella* and not in villas⁵⁸. The eastern part of Glavotok was part

of the territory of Fulfinium in the Early Imperial period, while the situation in Late Antiquity is still unclear⁵⁹. The existence of an Early Christian church can't be dismissed since other known sacral buildings are quite far: to the east there is a complex in Cickini forest⁶⁰ and Mirine basilica near Omišalj⁶¹, while to the south, in the area of *Curicum*, there is an Early Christian complex in villa Šinigoj (St. Lawrence) and a sacral complex under the modern day cathedral⁶² (fig. 12). A roman villa and late antique settlement without early Christian architecture is attested at the site Bunje near Novo Selo on the island of Brač⁶³. The author suggests that there was no need

for a sacral building for the early Christian community since it could gather around the graves of the deceased⁶⁴.

Since only a small part of this large, multi-layered complex has been examined, it is difficult to determine its exact size and area. Three horizons of settlement on the site have been identified, but it is of great importance to continue with the excavation in order to precisely define temporal dividing line of the mentioned phases, as well as to more clearly define the Early Medieval and Medieval phase. Future excavations of this Late Antique rural complex will present a rare shift forward in the study of this form of settlement of antique Krk. For now there are several sites that have well documented remains of

Early Christian sacral complexes (Krk, Mirine near Omišalj, Cickini forest near Malinska, Pod Mire near Juranđvor, and the triconchus in Korintija near Baška), while residential-agricultural complexes are in the background. Christian and Late Antique archaeology has, for a long time, directed and restricted its interest in researching only art-historical, iconographic and liturgical aspects of sacral architecture, as well as on analysis of particular churches and cemeteries, which were, in such a way, disconnected from its historical and topographical context⁶⁵. Only the research of rural complexes can contribute to a better understanding of the social and economic complexities of the Late Antique period. ■

Notes

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- 3 MORANA ČAUŠEVIĆ, 2006., (n. 2), 20.
- 4 MORANA ČAUŠEVIĆ, 2006., (n. 2), 20.
- 5 MIHAEL BOLONIĆ, IVAN ŽIC ROKOV, *Otok Krk kroz vjekove*, 2nd ed., Krk, 2002, 31.
- 6 Today this area is a part of administration of town Krk.
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Sažetak

Andrej Janeš

KASNOANTIČKI RURALNI KOMPLEKS UZ CRKVU SV. KRŠEVANA NA GLAVOTOKU (OTOK KRK)

Crkva sv. Krševana izgrađena je na terasama zapadnog dijela otoka Krka, poznatog kao Šotovento, nad uvalom Čavlena, na rtu Glavotoku, 2 km od sela Milohnića. Smjestila se na području koje se od juga prema sjeveru, u nizu terasa, spušta prema moru.

Tijekom rujna 2012. g. djelatnici Odjela za arheologiju Službe za arheološku baštinu Hrvatskog restauratorskog zavoda proveli su probno arheološko istraživanje na području nalazišta uz crkvu sv. Krševana. U starijoj se literaturi pretpostavljalo postojanje vjerojatno antičkih ostataka u okolici same crkve na temelju pronađenih ulomaka antičkog građevinskog materijala. Probim istraživanjem istražena je površina 111 m². Otvoreno je osam sondi južno, jugoistočno i zapadno od same crkve. Tom prilikom su se potvrdile ranije pretpostavke o postojanju starijih struktura na nalazištu.

Na prostoru južno i jugoistočno od crkve istraženi su ostaci kasnoantičkog ruralnog sklopa. Otkrivena je kvadratna prostorija (prostorija 1), dimenzija 3,5 x 3,6 m, kvadratnog tlocrta čiji su zidovi bili građeni u tehnici opus incertum. Ostaci arhitekture nađeni su istočno od same prostorije kao i u istočnom rubu istraživane parcele. Unutar prostorije 1 pronađeni su djelomice očuvani žbukani podovi koji su naknadno bili popravljani. Istočno i južno od prostorije otkriveni su, iako nisu istraženi u cijelosti, ostaci žbukanih podnica. Zapadno i nešto istočnije od prostorije nisu nađeni ostaci podnica već samo slojevi njihovih podloga koji svjedoče o njihovom postojanju. Prilikom istraživanja na ovom području nađeni su i pokretni nalazi. Najviše nalaza pripada skupini građevinske keramike kao što su krovne opeke, tegulae i imbrices. Ove je nalaze teško datirati jer se može raditi i o starijem materijalu, ponovno upotrijebljenom u kasnoj antici. Ostali nalazi pripisuju se sjevernoafričkom importu amfora (tipovi Keay LX, Africana Ia ili Africana IIc, Africana IIIa, LR2), tanjura (Hayes 50B) i svjetiljki koji se datiraju u razdo-

blje od 3. do kraja 5. st. i gruboj kućnoj keramici lokalne produkcije korištenoj od 4. do početka 7. st. Izuzeta su dva uzorka koja su radiokarbonskom analizom datirana od sredine 3. do početka 5. st. te drugu polovicu 6. st.

Drugi period na nalazištu predstavljaju arhitektonski ostaci pronađeni na platou sjeverno od kasnoantičkog sklopa tj. istočno od crkve. U zapadnom rubu gromače koja se nalazi između dviju terasa, otkriven je objekt A, pravokutnog tlocrta, dimenzija 4,8 x 3,4 m. Uočilo se da je temeljna stopa zapadnog zida objekta A dobrim dijelom uništena gradnjom istočne konhe crkve sv. Krševana. Sam objekt A je s južne strane dozidan na sjeverni zid prostorije 1 tj. kasnoantičkog sklopa. Ovom periodu mogu se pripisati i ostaci zida nađenog odmah zapadno od ulaza u crkvu i zidovi evidentirani u istočnom rubu parcele. Istraživanja su pokazala da je objekt A bio dio većeg kompleksa ili naselja koje je funkcioniralo nakon napuštanja kasnoantičkog sklopa do izgradnje crkve sv. Krševana, okvirno od početka ili sredine 7. do sredine 12. st.

Trećoj fazi pripada sama crkva sv. Krševana koja se stilskom analizom pripisuje ranoj romanici, a gradnja se veže za prelazak krčke biskupije pod patronat zadarske nadbiskupije sredinom 12. st. Ovom razdoblju se pripisuju arhitektonski nalazi nađeni zapadno od crkve, a organski su vezani sa crkvom.

Buduća bi arheološka istraživanja trebala potvrditi izgled i rasprostiranje kasnoantičkog sklopa, njegove faze nastanka, razvoja i napuštanja, zatim potvrditi postojanje naselja ili kompleksa na terasi sjeverno od kasnoantičkog sklopa, koje je moralo egzistirati u razdoblju srednjeg vijeka, kao i postojanje vjerojatnog ranokršćanskog sakralnog objekta te srednjovjekovnog groblja.

KLJUČNE RIJEČI: *Krk, sv. Krševan, kasna antika, ruralna arhitektura, rani srednji vijek, razvijeni srednji vijek*